

mines were laid as per operational plans dictated by need during Operation Parakaram. No land mines were laid without marking. Adequate measures are taken to prevent human casualties due to mines. All minefields are clearly fenced and marked and civilians are informed of the location. Mine awareness campaigns to educate the populace about identification of mines and precautions to be adopted are also undertaken by Army personnel.

Prevention of AIDS in Armed Forces

1540. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) is planning to award the best practices for HIV prevention among services, to the Indian armed forces;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of persons found HIV positive during the last two years;
- (d) the action taken against such persons; and
- (e) the steps being taken to counsel the troops twice a week about the contraceptives, with do's and don'ts to avoid HIV?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) In the Forces, HIV/AIDS control programme has been working effectively and the same has been appreciated by UNAIDS, USA and some European countries. UNAIDS has not informed the Government about any award to Indian armed forces for best practices for HIV prevention amongst the Services.

(c) to (e) The incidence of HIV infection among Armed Forces personnel during the last two years is as follows:—

Year	Incidence
2004	0.028%
2005	0.028%

No disciplinary action is initiated against any individual found HIV positive. However, the individuals found HIV positive are kept under medical surveillance.

Counselling of troops about contraceptives, especially about condoms, is a continuous process which is undertaken at unit levels by Medical Officers/Regimental Medical Officers/Public Health Specialists. Do's and Don'ts have also been laid down which include use of condoms, non indulgence in unprotected sex. etc.

Prior intelligence inputs about terrorist attacks in Malegaon

1541. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had prior intelligence input about the terrorist attacks in Malegaon city in Maharashtra on 6th September, 2006;

(b) if so, the steps Government took to prevent such terrorist attack; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to prevent reoccurrence of such terrorist attacks in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per available information, there were no specific inputs about the terrorist attacks that occurred in Malegaon in Maharashtra on 8.9.2006.

(c) The Government pursues a multi dimensional approach to deal with terrorist activities and extends support to the States in neutralizing such activities. The Government has taken measures which include strengthening of border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment, of security forces both at the Centre and in the States, by well coordinated intelligence based operations. Besides, steps have also been taken to achieve bilateral and multilateral cooperation to deal with the menace of terrorism, given its global dimensions.